

LISTING OF CLAIMS

Claim 1 (previously presented): A slave test unit for testing voice signal quality over phone connections, comprising:

at least two phone line connectors attached to separate phone lines;

means for transmitting and receiving electrical signals via the phone line connectors, the electrical signals being transmitted and received between the slave test unit and at least one remote test unit, the electrical signals received from the remote test unit comprising test commands;

means for decoding the test commands from the electrical signals received from the remote test unit, and;

means for executing the test commands, the executing means including the ability to generate test signals on any of the separate phone lines, the test commands being received exclusively from the remote test unit.

Claim 2 (previously presented): The slave test unit of claim 1, further comprising means for encoding the test commands into the electrical signals sent via the phone line connectors to the remote test unit.

Claim 3 (original): The slave test unit of claim 1, wherein one of the test commands is a dialback command.

Claim 4 (original): The slave test unit of claim 1, wherein one of the test commands is a loopback command.

Claim 5 (original): The slave test unit of claim 1, wherein one of the test commands is a quiet termination command.

Claim 6 (original): The slave test unit of claim 1, wherein the remote test unit is a master test unit possessing a human operator interface.

Claim 7 (original): The slave test unit of claim 1, wherein the remote test unit is another slave test unit.

Claim 8 (original): The slave test unit of claim 1, wherein the test commands are encoded and received as DTMF signals.

Claim 9 (original): The slave test unit of claim 1, wherein at least one of the phone line connectors is adapted for FXO/FXS telephone ports.

Claim 10 (original): The slave test unit of claim 1, wherein at least one of the phone line connectors is adapted for E&M telephone ports.

Claim 11 (previously presented): A method for testing voice signal quality over phone connections, comprising the steps of:

establishing at least two phone connections, whereby the phone connections are made with at least one remote test unit;

receiving electrical signals, the electrical signals being received from the remote test unit, the electrical signals comprising test commands;

decoding the test commands from the electrical signals being received from the remote test unit; and

executing the test commands, the executing step including the ability to generate test signals on any of the phone connections, the test commands being received exclusively from the remote test unit.

Claim 12 (original): The method of claim 11, wherein one of the test commands executed in the executing step is a dialback command.

Claim 13 (original): The method of claim 11, wherein one of the test commands executed in the executing step is a loopback command.

Claim 14 (original): The method of claim 11, wherein one of the test commands executed in the executing step is a quiet termination command.

Claim 15 (previously presented): The method of claim 11, wherein one of the test commands executed in the executing step is an encoding and transmission of the test commands via at least one of the phone connections.

Claim 16 (original): The method of claim 11, wherein the remote test unit is a master test unit.

Claim 17 (original): The method of claim 11, wherein the remote test unit is a slave test unit.

Claim 18 (original): The method of claim 11, wherein the test commands of the receiving step are encoded by the remote test units as DTMF signals.